

## NOTICE OF HEARING

## COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet in SR-301, Russell Senate Office Building, on Thursday, February 1, 1996, at 9:30 a.m., to receive testimony on campaign finance reform.

For further information concerning this hearing, please contact Ed Edens of the committee staff on 224-6684.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be permitted to meet Wednesday, January 31, 1996, beginning at 10 a.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing on the tax reform report issued by the National Commission on Economic Growth and Tax Reform.

The PRESIDING Officer. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE  
WHITewater DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED  
MATTERS

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee To Investigate Whitewater Development and Related Matters be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 30, Wednesday, January 31, and Thursday, February 1, 1996, to conduct hearings pursuant to Senate Resolution 120.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

## CHINA THREATENS TAIWAN

• Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, the New York Times carried an article titled "As China Threatens Taiwan, It Makes Sure U.S. Listens," written by Patrick E. Tyler, about irresponsible talk from Chinese leaders against Taiwan. I ask that the article be printed at the end of my remarks.

It is the kind of talk that inevitably sours relations between China and the United States but, also, causes apprehension among the entire community of nations.

The United States made a mistake in the Shanghai Communique of not recognizing that Taiwan and China, in fact, today are two separate countries. If they eventually want to merge as East Germany and West Germany did, that is up to them.

But China should not think that when we read accounts like that in the New York Times, we sit idly by and think that it makes no difference. The New York Times editorial response to it, which I ask to be printed at the end of my remarks, is appropriate.

I want a good relationship with China. All of my colleagues want a

good relationship with China. But China is impeding the possibility of that good relationship with its threats to Taiwan.

The New York Times article and editorial response follow:

AS CHINA THREATENS TAIWAN, IT MAKES SURE  
UNITED STATES LISTENS

(By Patrick E. Tyler)

BEIJING, Jan. 23.—The Chinese leadership has sent unusually explicit warnings to the Clinton Administration that China has completed plans for a limited attack on Taiwan that could be mounted in the weeks after Taiwan's President, Lee Tenghui, wins the first democratic balloting for the presidency in March.

The purpose of this saber-rattling is apparently to prod the United States to rein in Taiwan and President Lee, whose push for greater international recognition for the island of 21 million people, has been condemned here as a drive for independence.

While no one familiar with the threats thinks China is on the verge of risking a catastrophic war against Taiwan, some China experts fear that the Taiwan issue has become such a test of national pride for Chinese leaders that the danger of war should be taken seriously.

A senior American official said the Administration has "no independent confirmation or even credible evidence" that the Chinese are contemplating an attack, and spoke almost dismissively of the prospect.

"They can fire missiles, but Taiwan has some teeth of its own," the official said. "And does China want to risk that and the international effects?"

The most pointed of the Chinese warnings was conveyed recently through a former Assistant Secretary of Defense, Chas. W. Freeman Jr., who traveled to China this winter for discussions with senior Chinese officials. On Jan. 4, after returning to Washington, Mr. Freeman informed President Clinton's national security adviser, Anthony Lake, that the People's Liberation Army had prepared plans for a missile attack against Taiwan consisting of one conventional missile strike a day for 30 days.

This warning followed similar statements relayed to Administration officials by John W. Lewis, a Stanford University political scientist who meets frequently with senior Chinese military figures here.

These warnings do not mean that an attack on Taiwan is certain or imminent. Instead, a number of China specialists say that China, through "credible preparations" for an attack, hopes to intimidate the Taiwanese and to influence American policy toward Taiwan. The goal, these experts say, is to force Taiwan to abandon the campaign initiated by President Lee, including his effort to have Taiwan seated at the United Nations, and to end high-profile visits by President Lee to the United States and to other countries.

If the threats fail to rein in Mr. Lee, however, a number of experts now express the view that China could resort to force, despite the enormous consequences for its economy and for political stability in Asia.

Since last summer, when the White House allowed Mr. Lee to visit the United States, the Chinese leadership has escalated its attacks on the Taiwan leader, accusing him of seeking to "split the motherland" and undermine the "one China" policy that had been the bedrock of relations between Beijing and its estranged province since 1949.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, asked to comment on reports that the Chinese military has prepared plans for military action against Taiwan, said he was awaiting

a response from his superiors. Last month, a senior ministry official said privately that China's obvious preparations for military action have been intended to head off an unwanted conflict.

"We have been trying to do all we can to avoid a scenario in which we are confronted in the end with no other option but a military one," the official said. He said that if China does not succeed in changing Taiwan's course, "then I am afraid there is going to be a war."

Mr. Freeman described the most recent warning during a meeting Mr. Lake had called with nongovernmental China specialists.

Participants said that Mr. Freeman's presentation was arresting as he described being told by a Chinese official of the advanced state of military planning. Preparations for a missile attack on Taiwan, he said, and the target selection to carry it out, have been completed and await a final decision by the Politburo in Beijing.

One of the most dramatic moments came when Mr. Freeman quoted a Chinese official as asserting that China could act militarily against Taiwan without fear of intervention by the United States because American leaders "care more about Los Angeles than they do about Taiwan," a statement that Mr. Freeman characterized as an indirect threat by China to use nuclear weapons against the United States.

An account of the White House meeting was provided by some of the participants. Mr. Freeman, reached by telephone, confirmed the gist of his remarks, reiterating that he believes that while "Beijing clearly prefers negotiation to combat," there is a new sense of urgency in Beijing to end Taiwan's quest for "independent international status."

Mr. Freeman said that President Lee's behavior "in the weeks following his re-election will determine" whether Beijing's Communist Party leaders feel they must act "by direct military means" to change his behavior.

In recent months, Mr. Freeman said he has relayed a number of warnings to United States Government officials. "I have quoted senior Chinese who told me" that China "would sacrifice 'millions of men' and 'entire cities' to assure the unity of China and who opined that the United States would not make comparable sacrifices."

He also asserted that "some in Beijing may be prepared to engage in nuclear blackmail against the U.S. to insure that Americans do not obstruct" efforts by the People's Liberation Army "to defend the principles of Chinese sovereignty over Taiwan and Chinese national unity."

Some specialists at the meeting wondered if Mr. Freeman's presentation was too alarmist and suggested that parliamentary elections on Taiwan in December had resulted in losses for the ruling Nationalist Party and that President Lee appeared to be moderating his behavior to avoid a crisis.

"I am not alarmist at this point," said one specialist, who would not comment on the substance of the White House meeting. "I don't think the evidence is developing in that direction."

Other participants in the White House meeting, who said they would not violate the confidentiality pledge of the private session, separately expressed their concern that a potential military crisis is building in the Taiwan Strait.

"I think there is evidence to suggest that the Chinese are creating at least the option to apply military pressure to Taiwan if they feel that Taiwan is effectively moving out of China's orbit politically," said Kenneth Lieberthal, a China scholar at the University